Monroe Dance Academy April Newsletter

April 30th, 2020

A Connected Community!

Here at Monroe Dance Academy, we strive to keep our families and dancers connected no matter the distance! MDA's Virtual Studio will celebrate our seventh week of online classes next week. Wow! A huge thank you to you, our MDA family, for making our virtual dreams a reality!



MONROE DANCE ACADEMY



Jayme Wappel

To stay busy at home, Jayme has been teaching live barre classes for Pure Barre Guilford and live dance classes for Monroe Dance Academy. She is a Co-Creator of MDA's Virtual Studio and has been working tirelessly to plan classes, design a website, create weekly schedules, and more to give MDA dancers and families the best experience possible. When she's not dancing or barre-ing in her living room, she is most likely cooking, baking, watching *True Detective*, or doing the NYT crossword with her husband, Clancy.

Staff Updates

Meghan Quinn

Meghan has been doing a lot to stay busy during this crazy time! Aside from teaching live classes for MDA, Meghan has been exercising daily as well as reading and walking her dog. Meghan is one semester away from completing her Masters at Fairfield University, she has been working hard to complete her teaching portfolio. Meghan spent a few days working tirelessly to plan a fun-filled Disney Game Night alongside her co-director Jayme Wappel. The two of them have been working together every day to prepare for Monroe Dance Company's Virtual Auditions! Meghan truly misses all her dance students at the studio and can't wait to get back! #StrongerTogether





Staff Updates (Cont.)



Joey Socci

Joey has been keeping quite busy at home! His college classes give him a pretty clear schedule, and just like all of you he's been dancing away in his home! He is so excited to be back teaching tap with his MDA family, even virtually! When Joey isn't in class, he's been keeping busy playing video games and watching *a lot* of Disney+ shows - his current favorite is *The Imagineering Story* and *Frozen 2.* He's also starting to learn embroidery and is having a great time learning about new art!

Kelly Gleason

To stay busy at home, Kelly has been doing a ballet center barre (almost) every day, as well as doing online pilates videos! She watched the entirety of *The English Game* with her cat Buddy, and is on her 4th book since coming home from tour! Kelly has also been dreaming about the day we can all be back in the studio together!





Eileen Boyle

Eileen has been having fun at home by trying new things and working on projects she's always wanted to do but never before got around to doing. Along

with teaching virtual classes for Monroe Dance Academy, she has also been taking virtual classes from choreographers across the country - both very new and exciting experiences. Around her apartment, Eileen has taken to activities such as painting, rhinestoning various items of clothing, repotting her 18 plants and staring out the window. She has also been enjoying rewatching the entire series of *Boy Meets World* as well as learning how to make mini treats in her toaster oven.

Judy Abbatiello

Judy has been staying at home with her birds, Ruby and Shamrock! She has been keeping up with MDA paperwork, reading many books, and crocheting a lot. Judy spends her days cleaning her house and cooking new recipes! She misses her MDA family and is so excited to see her smiling dancers again soon!



Staff Updates (Cont.)



Tammy Socci

While life at home hasn't changed much for Tammy, she is enjoying quality time with her boys. Tammy is continuing her recovery by practicing online beginner yoga and taking short walks to build up her strength. To stay busy, she is baking with her boys and trying new Pinterest recipes. She also has read some great books and planted seeds for her vegetable garden! She misses MDA so much!

Jane Quinn

As an essential worker in the construction industry, Jane's job has kept her quite busy! She currently works both in-person at her office and remotely. In her free time, she takes daily walks and has been accomplishing more than 20,000 steps each day. (Go Jane go!) Jane has been taking virtual gym classes through Zoom as well as spending quality time with her family. They all enjoy sitting outside, soaking in the sun, and watching Disney movies. Jane misses everyone at the studio and hopes to be back soon!



MDA's Virtual Studio

Six weeks and counting! MDA's Virtual Studio offers live classes through Zoom six days a week. This keeps your dancer moving, learning, interacting with their friends, and having fun! MDA's Virtual Studio is password protected and specifically catered to MDA dancers and families with classes taught by your favorite MDA teachers. We update our class schedule weekly, listening to your feedback to continually improve our class times and dance styles to best suit you! The best part... MDA's Virtual Studio is included in your enrollment! Please email monroedance11@gmail.com for login and password information.

Disney Game Night

Meghan Quinn and Jayme Wappel hosted MDAs first virtual game night! This month was Disney themed! The night started out with a scavenger hunt where dancers had to run through their house to find each item. Next was an intense trivia game where the dancers kept track of their own points. The hard questions were two points! The night was followed by ABCs Disney Sing-Along hosted by Ryan Seacrest. Overall, more than 40 MDA dancers, siblings, parents, and other staff members joined us for a fun-filled night of Disney!



Monroe Dance Company Auditions

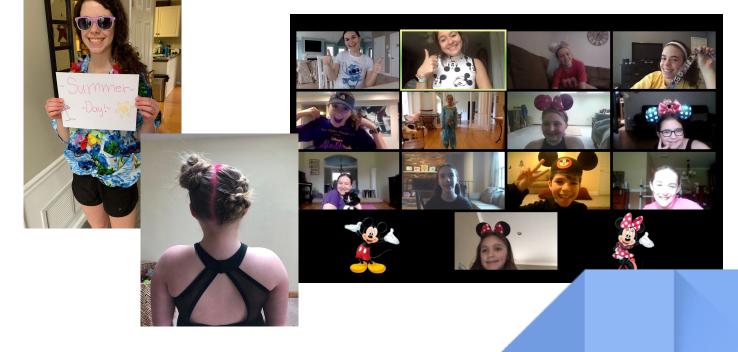
Monroe Dance Company auditions have gone *virtual!* All are welcome to audition! Our company is an extension of Monroe Dance Academy that focuses on performances, team bonding, and having fun! We perform at both local community events and competitions. MDC is a great outlet for children because it allows them to grow as dancers as well as people. Dancers get to bond with other company members and develop relationships that last a lifetime.

- <u>Click here to learn more about MDC</u>
- <u>Click here for Audition Info</u>
- Contact: <u>directorsmdc@gmail.com</u>

Costume Curbside

Costumes have arrived! To keep MDA staff and families safe, we will be distributing costumes via curbside pickup on **Saturday**, **May 16th and Sunday**, **May 17th**. Each family will be assigned a designated pickup time on *one* of these days (confirmation email to come soon). Remaining costume balances must be paid in advance via Square or at "Costume Curbside" via check or cash. MDA staff will be wearing gloves and masks for everyone's health and safety. Email <u>monroedance11@gmail.com</u> with any questions!

Spirit Week



Coming Soon...

Picture Day

Monroe Dance Academy will be having an "At Home" Picture Day! Dancers are encouraged to put their costumes on, do their hair and makeup, and take pictures! Send your pictures to <u>directorsmdc@gmail.com</u> **At Home Picture Day is June 14th!** We can't wait to see you in your costumes!



Family Game Night - Movie Edition

Meghan Quinn and Jayme Wappel will be hosting MDA's Second Family Game Night! This month's theme is... MOVIES! Dancers, siblings, and parents are encouraged to join us via Zoom on **Thursday, May 14th @ 7:00pm**. Bring your popcorn!



Read more on our website

Monroe Dance Academy 838 Main Street, Monroe, CT 06468 (203) 268-1200 ~ <u>www.monroedance.com</u>